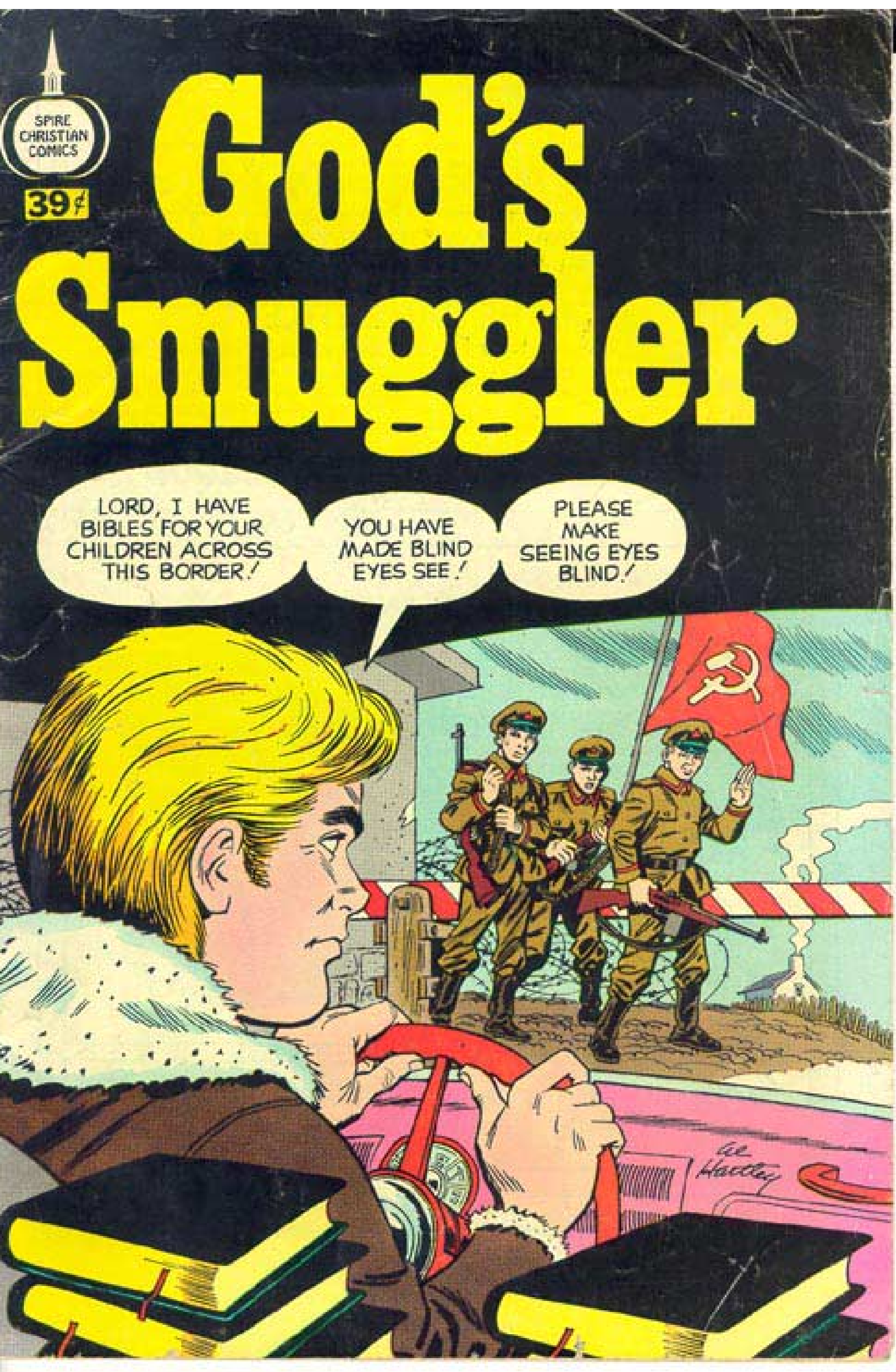

SPIRE CHRISTIAN COMICS
39¢
God's Smuggler
LORD, I HAVE BIBLES FOR YOUR CHILDREN ACROSS THIS BORDER!
YOU HAVE MADE BLIND EYES SEE!
PLEASE MAKE SEEING EYES BLIND!
Al Hartley

THIS IS A TRUE STORY!

ADAPTED BY AL HARTLEY

BASED ON THE BEST-SELLING BOOK OF THE SAME TITLE

THE STORY OF BROTHER ANDREW, A COURAGEOUS DUTCHMAN AND HIS DARING EXPEDITIONS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN!

SUSPENSE-FILLED!!!   MIRACULOUS!!!

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PLEASE SEE INSIDE BACK COVER FOR THIS AND OTHER OUTSTANDING STORIES!

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God's Smuggler
FROM THE TIME I FIRST PUT ON WOODEN SHOES, I DREAMED OF DERRING-DO! BUT SUDDENLY MY ADVENTURES WERE NO LONGER MAKE BELIEVE! BLITZKRIEG! THE NAZIS HAD INVADED MY HOMELAND!
POW!
BLAM!
BOOM!
BOOM!
POKA!
HAST DU EINEN FUERWERKSKOERPER EXPLODIERT?
FUERWERKS ???
OH, NO, SIR!!!
KLOP!
KLOP!
KLOP! KLOP!

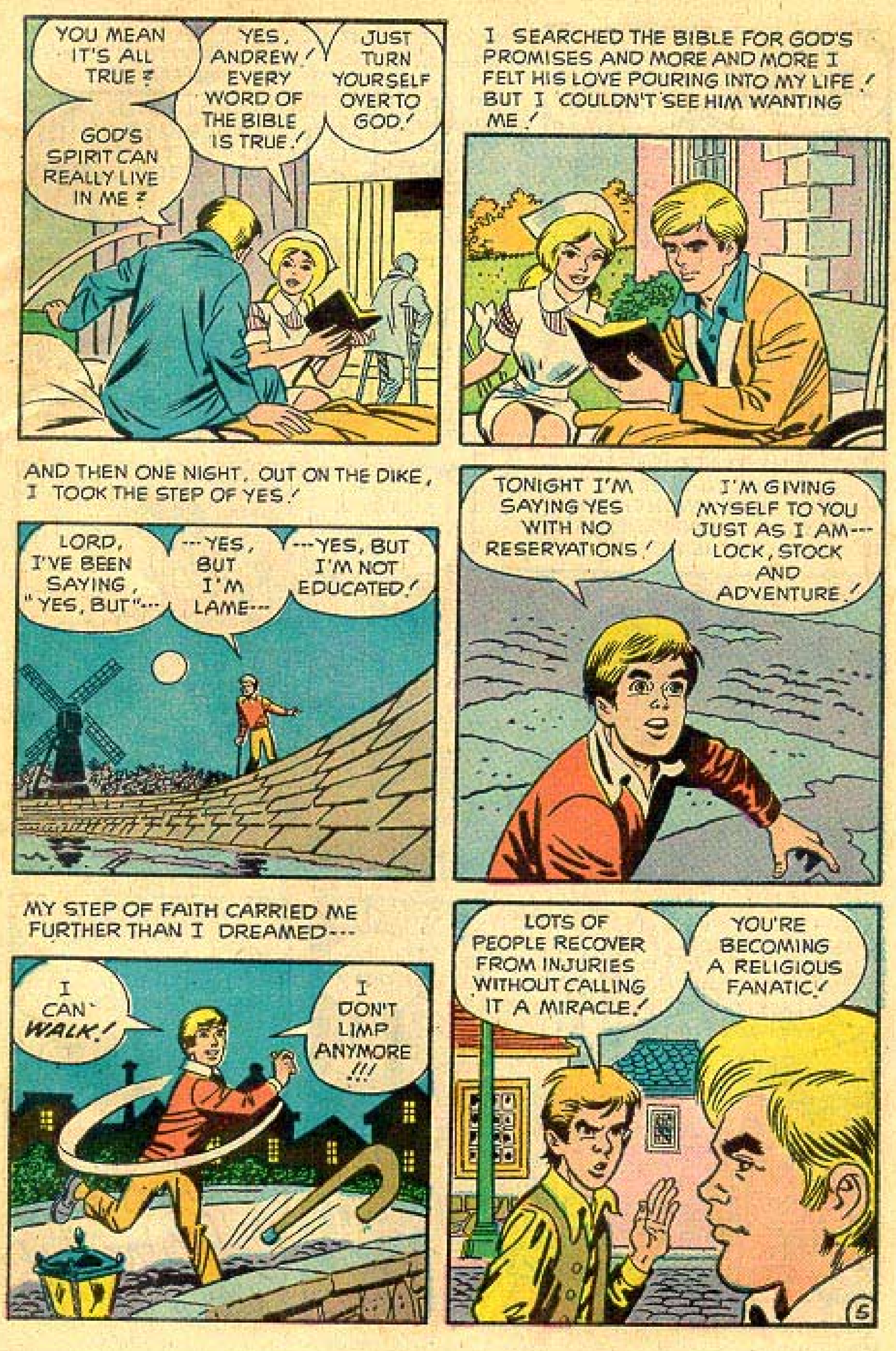


BUT JOKES AGAINST THE NAZIS CEASED TO BE FUNNY AS THE OCCUPATION DRAGGED ON.!
BEFORE I WAS 14, I WAS JOINING THE FLIGHT TO ESCAPE DEPORTATION TO THE FORCED LABOR CAMPS OF GERMANY.!
FINALLY--- MERCIFULLY--- LIBERATION!!! THE WAR WAS OVER!!!
BUT MY THIRST FOR ADVENTURE CONTINUED! WHEN I WAS 18 ---
HAVEN'T WE SEEN ENOUGH OF SOLDIERS?
OH, MAMA! IT'LL MAKE A MAN OF HIM!
I WANT ADVENTURE, MAMA!
I PRAY THAT THE ADVENTURE YOU FIND WILL SATISFY, ANDREW!
2

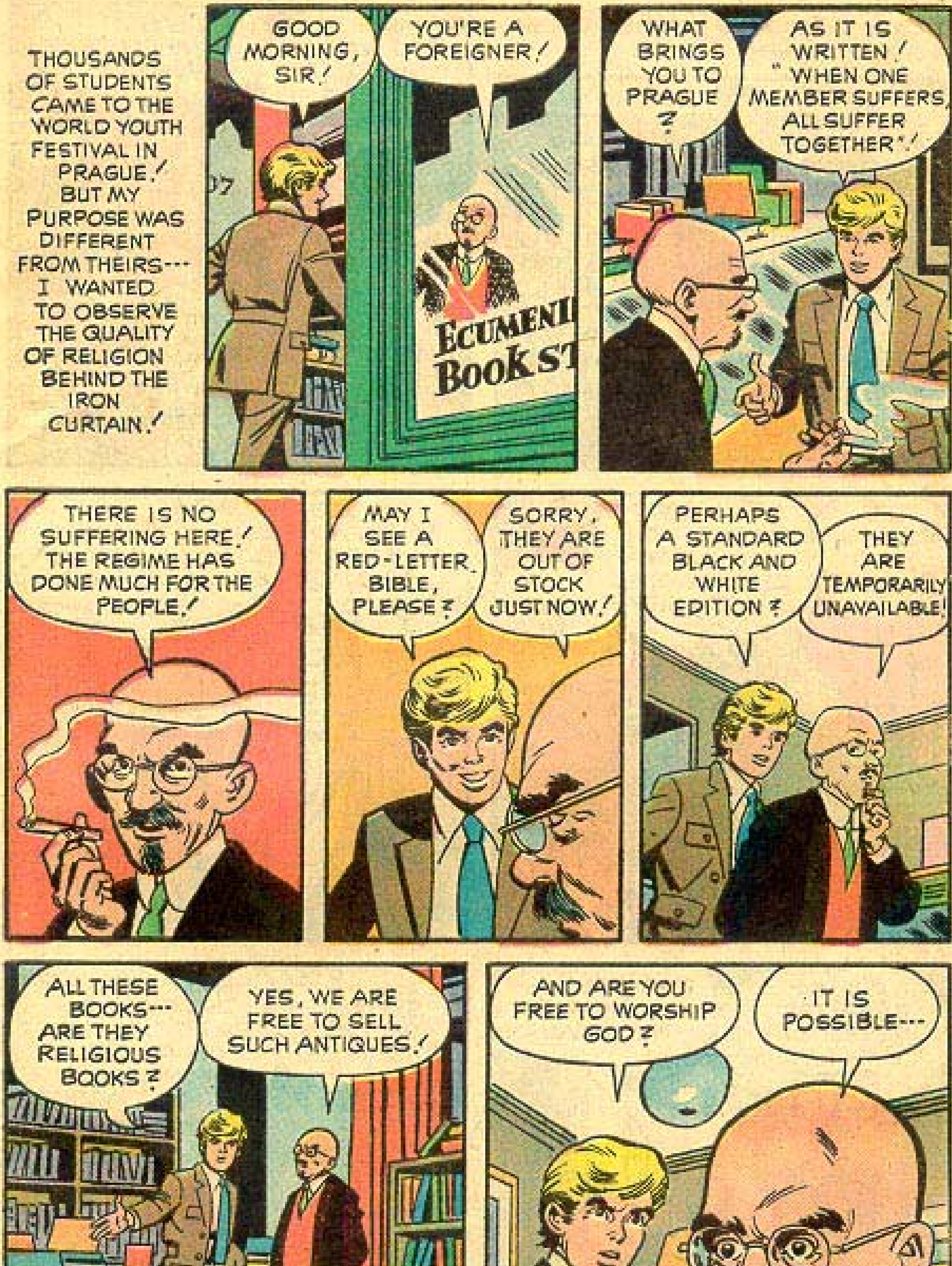


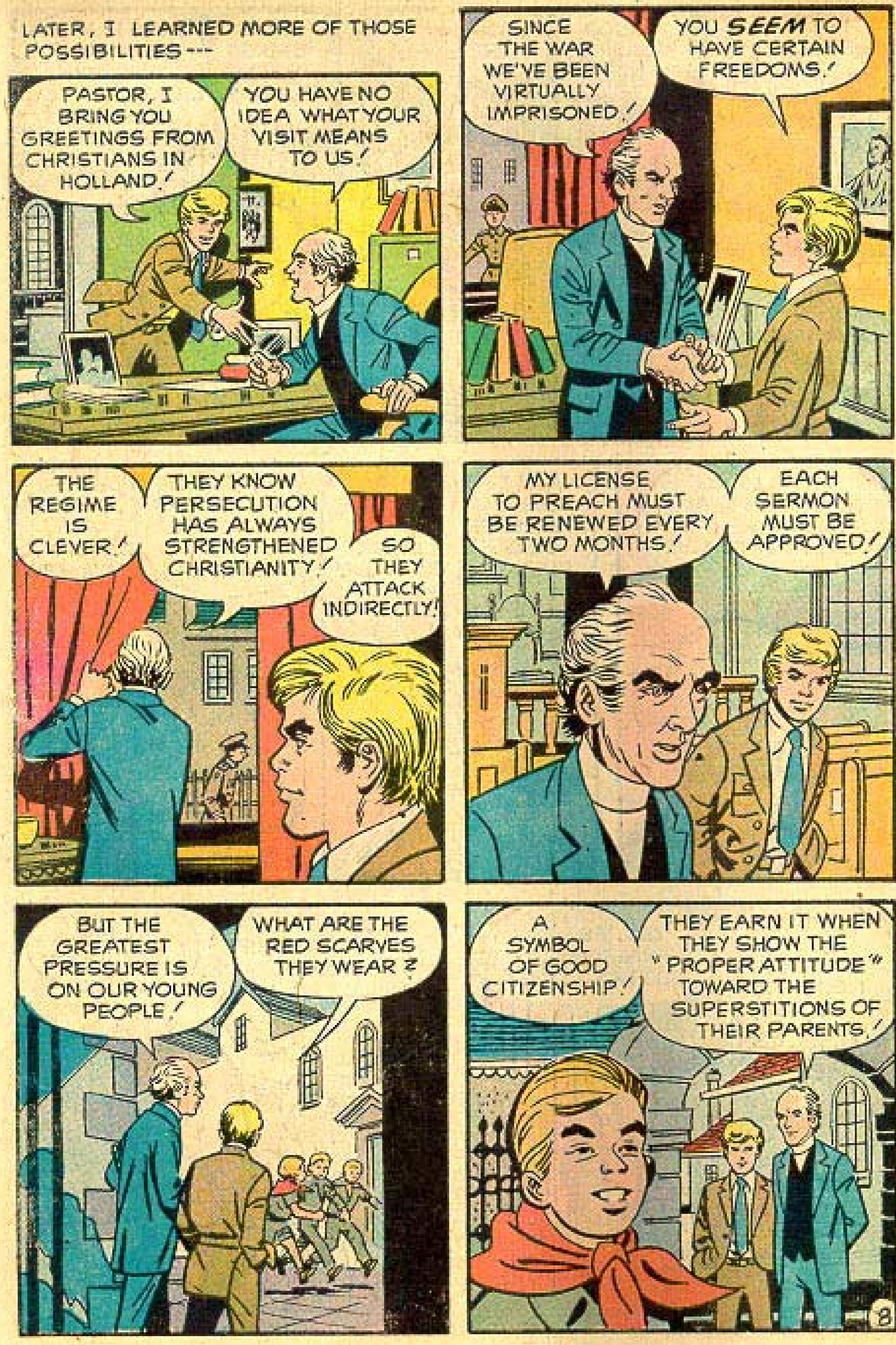
AND SO I ARRIVED IN INDONESIA TO TAKE BACK OUR COLONIES FOR THE QUEEN!
SUDDENLY TARGETS WERE NO LONGER PIECES OF PAPER! THEY WERE FATHERS AND BROTHERS JUST LIKE MY OWN!!!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
WHAT IS THIS MADNESS ALL ABOUT?
WHEN THE SKIRMISH ENDED, THE REAL BATTLE BEGAN! AND THERE WAS NO ESCAPE!
LIVE, DRINK AND BE MERRY, ANDY!
TOMORROW WE MAY DIE!
WHY?
WHY???
3

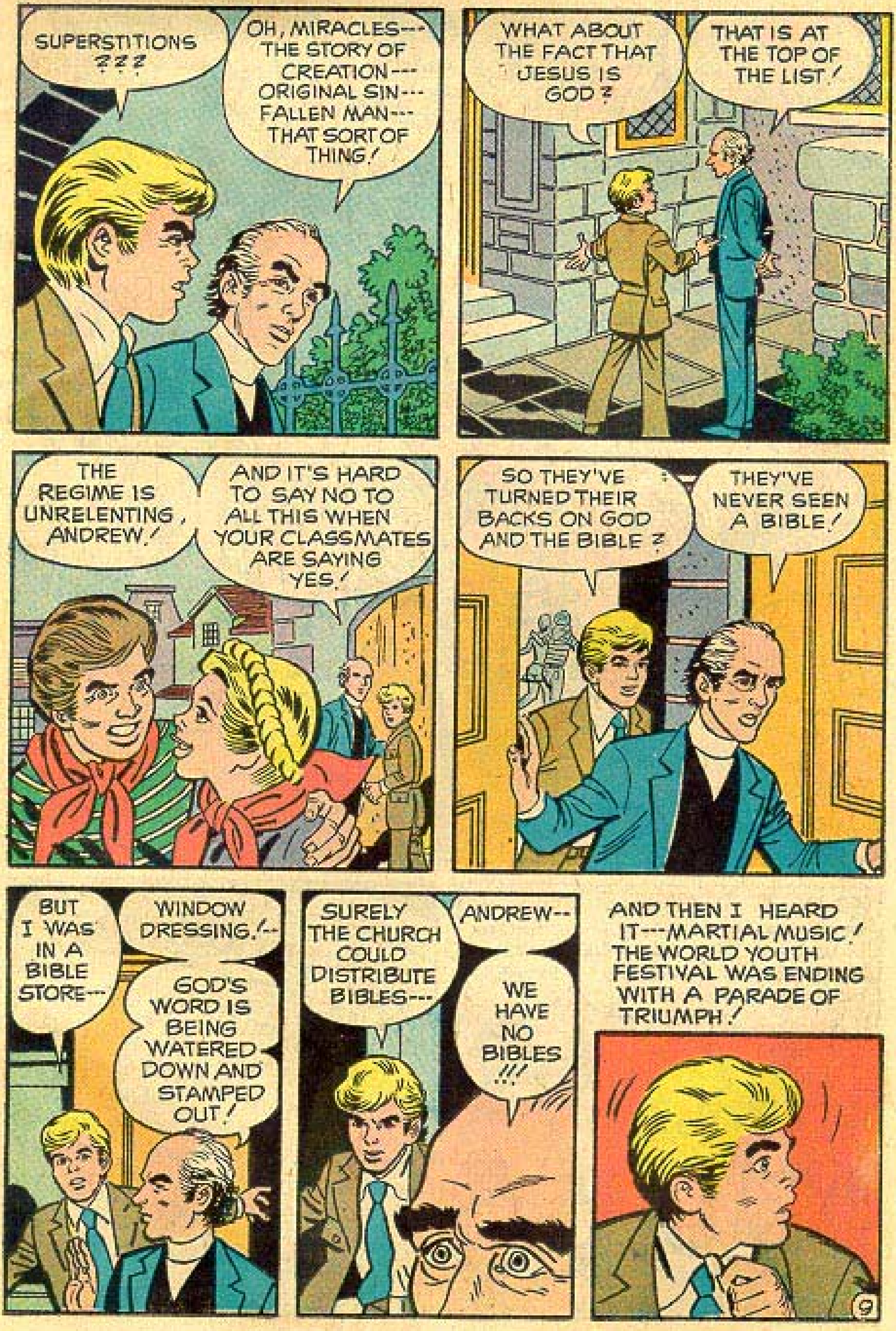

THEN, IN AN AMBUSH---
I'M HIT!
I HAD ALWAYS IMAGINED MYSELF GOING OUT IN A BLAZE OF GLORY, SHOWING CONTEMPT FOR THE WHOLE HUMAN FARCE!
BUT NOT LIKE THIS!
HELPLESS!
CRIPPLED!
YOU'LL NEVER WALK WITHOUT A CANE!
AND SO MY GREAT ADVENTURE ENDED — IN DISASTER!!!
VETERAN'S REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
DON'T BE BITTER, SOLDIER---
LET ME READ TO YOU!
HER NAME WAS CORRIE AND SHE READ WITH SUCH FEELING, I DIDN'T MIND THAT IT WAS FROM THE BIBLE!
---MY STRENGTH IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS---
4


YOU MEAN IT'S ALL TRUE ?
GOD'S SPIRIT CAN REALLY LIVE IN ME ?
YES, ANDREW! EVERY WORD OF THE BIBLE IS TRUE!
JUST TURN YOURSELF OVER TO GOD!
I SEARCHED THE BIBLE FOR GOD'S PROMISES AND MORE AND MORE I FELT HIS LOVE POURING INTO MY LIFE! BUT I COULDN'T SEE HIM WANTING ME!
AND THEN ONE NIGHT, OUT ON THE DIKE, I TOOK THE STEP OF YES!
LORD, I'VE BEEN SAYING, "YES, BUT"---
---YES, BUT I'M LAME---
---YES, BUT I'M NOT EDUCATED!
TONIGHT I'M SAYING YES WITH NO RESERVATIONS!
I'M GIVING MYSELF TO YOU JUST AS I AM--- LOCK, STOCK AND ADVENTURE!
MY STEP OF FAITH CARRIED ME FURTHER THAN I DREAMED---
I CAN WALK!
I DON'T LIMP ANYMORE !!!
LOTS OF PEOPLE RECOVER FROM INJURIES WITHOUT CALLING IT A MIRACLE!
YOU'RE BECOMING A RELIGIOUS FANATIC!
5


WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE IN HIM!
THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING, ANDREW!
SOON I ENROLLED IN A SEMINARY AND LEARNED-- THAT MY GOD WAS TRULY A GOD OF MIRACLES!
HE WAS LEADING ME IN THE ULTIMATE HUMAN ADVENTURE!
IT STARTED WITH AN INVITATION---AND MY LIFE HAS NEVER BEEN THE SAME!
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PRAGUE, IT CAN BE ARRANGED!
I JUMPED AT THE CHANCE! SHORTLY I WAS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD!
YOUR SUITCASE SEEMS HEAVY, COMRADE!
YES! IT'S FULL OF BOOKLETS!
SPLENDID! MARX SAID WE WOULD CONQUER THE WORLD WITH 26 LEAD SOLDIERS - THE ALPHABET!
YOUR LITERATURE CONCERNS THE CLASS STRUGGLE?
HAVE ONE!
YOU CAN TALK ABOUT COMMUNISM!
I WISH TO TALK ABOUT JESUS CHRIST!
God's Love
6


THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS CAME TO THE WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PRAGUE! BUT MY PURPOSE WAS DIFFERENT FROM THEIRS--- I WANTED TO OBSERVE THE QUALITY OF RELIGION BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN!
GOOD MORNING, SIR!
YOU'RE A FOREIGNER!
ECUMENI
BOOK ST
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO PRAGUE?
AS IT IS WRITTEN! "WHEN ONE MEMBER SUFFERS, ALL SUFFER TOGETHER"!
THERE IS NO SUFFERING HERE! THE REGIME HAS DONE MUCH FOR THE PEOPLE!
MAY I SEE A RED-LETTER BIBLE, PLEASE?
SORRY, THEY ARE OUT OF STOCK JUST NOW!
PERHAPS A STANDARD BLACK AND WHITE EDITION?
THEY ARE TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE!
ALL THESE BOOKS--- ARE THEY RELIGIOUS BOOKS?
YES, WE ARE FREE TO SELL SUCH ANTIQUES!
AND ARE YOU FREE TO WORSHIP GOD?
IT IS POSSIBLE---


LATER, I LEARNED MORE OF THOSE POSSIBILITIES---
PASTOR, I BRING YOU GREETINGS FROM CHRISTIANS IN HOLLAND!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOUR VISIT MEANS TO US!
SINCE THE WAR WE'VE BEEN VIRTUALLY IMPRISONED!
YOU SEEM TO HAVE CERTAIN FREEDOMS!
THE REGIME IS CLEVER!
THEY KNOW PERSECUTION HAS ALWAYS STRENGTHENED CHRISTIANITY!
SO THEY ATTACK INDIRECTLY!
MY LICENSE TO PREACH MUST BE RENEWED EVERY TWO MONTHS!
EACH SERMON MUST BE APPROVED!
BUT THE GREATEST PRESSURE IS ON OUR YOUNG PEOPLE!
WHAT ARE THE RED SCARVES THEY WEAR?
A SYMBOL OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP!
THEY EARN IT WHEN THEY SHOW THE "PROPER ATTITUDE" TOWARD THE SUPERSTITIONS OF THEIR PARENTS!
8

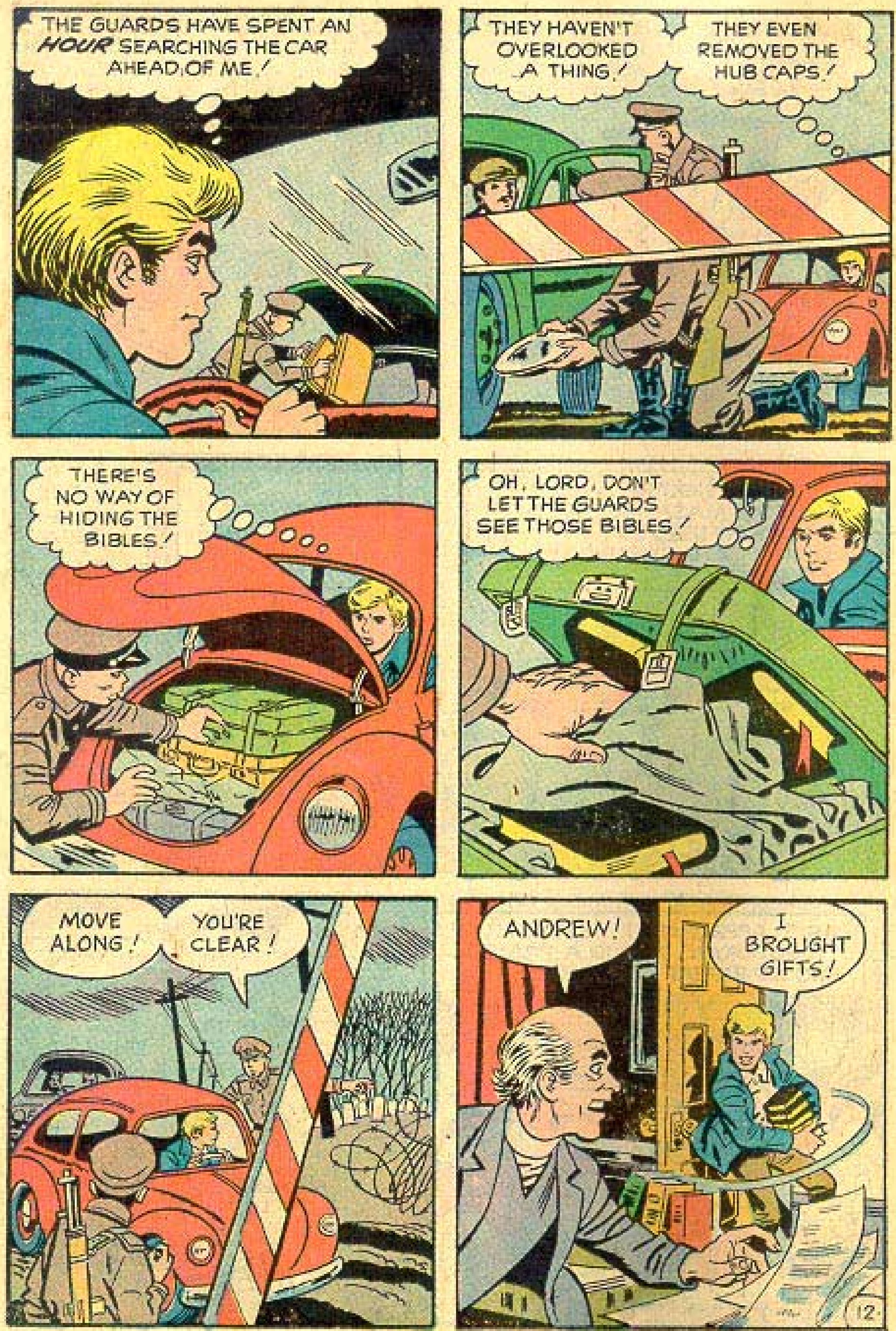

SUPERSTITIONS ???
OH, MIRACLES--- THE STORY OF CREATION--- ORIGINAL SIN--- FALLEN MAN--- THAT SORT OF THING!
WHAT ABOUT THE FACT THAT JESUS IS GOD?
THAT IS AT THE TOP OF THE LIST!
THE REGIME IS UNRELENTING, ANDREW!
AND IT'S HARD TO SAY NO TO ALL THIS WHEN YOUR CLASSMATES ARE SAYING YES!
SO THEY'VE TURNED THEIR BACKS ON GOD AND THE BIBLE?
THEY'VE NEVER SEEN A BIBLE!
BUT I WAS IN A BIBLE STORE---
WINDOW DRESSING!--
GOD'S WORD IS BEING WATERED DOWN AND STAMPED OUT!
SURELY THE CHURCH COULD DISTRIBUTE BIBLES---
ANDREW--
WE HAVE NO BIBLES!!!
AND THEN I HEARD IT---MARTIAL MUSIC! THE WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL WAS ENDING WITH A PARADE OF TRIUMPH!
9



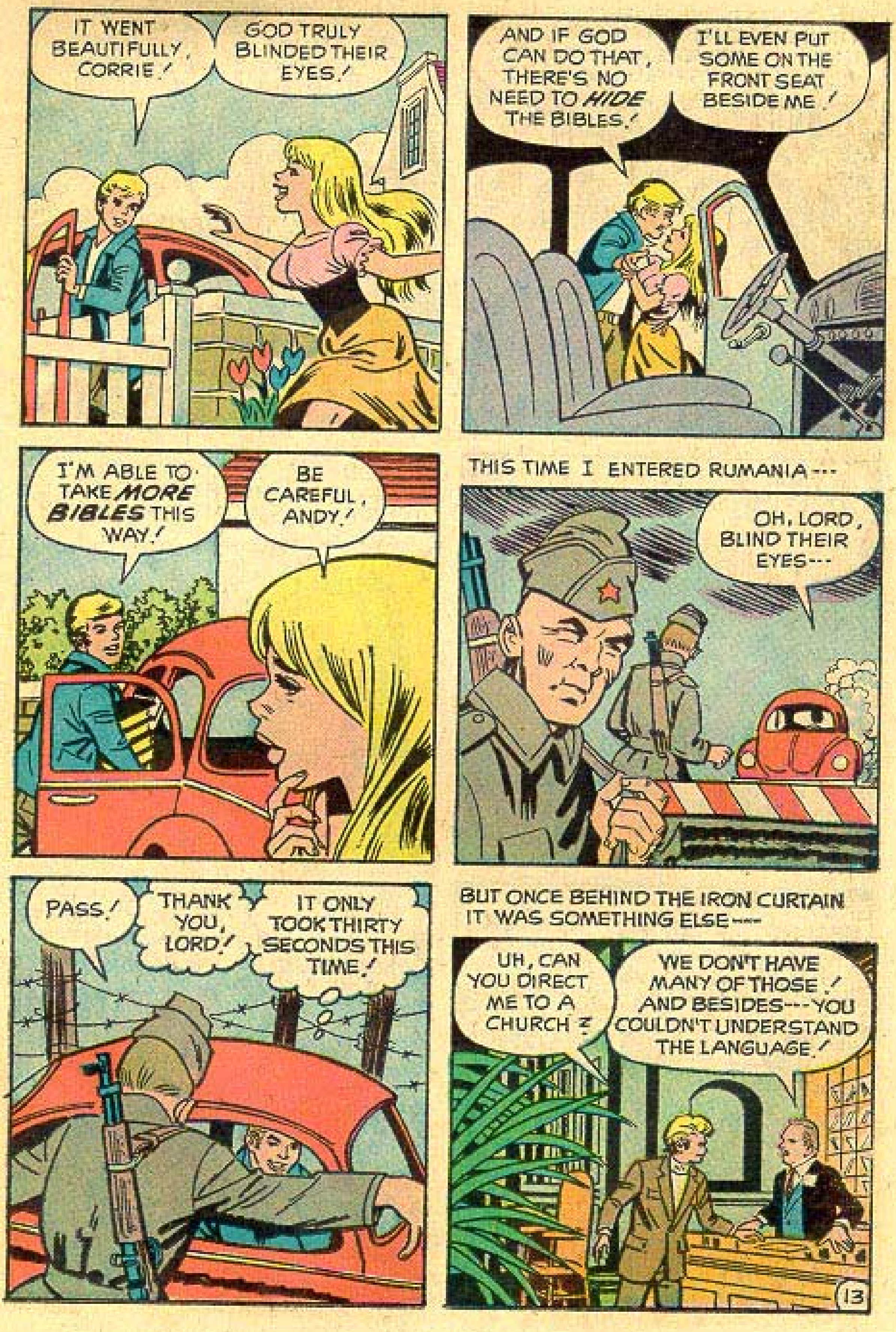
THESE ARE THE EVANGELISTS OF THE 20TH CENTURY!
LISTEN TO THEM SHOUT THEIR GOSPEL!
MAN IS HIS OWN MASTER!
THE FUTURE IS OURS TO TAKE!
LORD, THEY CAN'T WIN BY DEFAULT!
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO?
SHOW ME--- PLEASE!
REVELATION. 3
2 Awake, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of death:

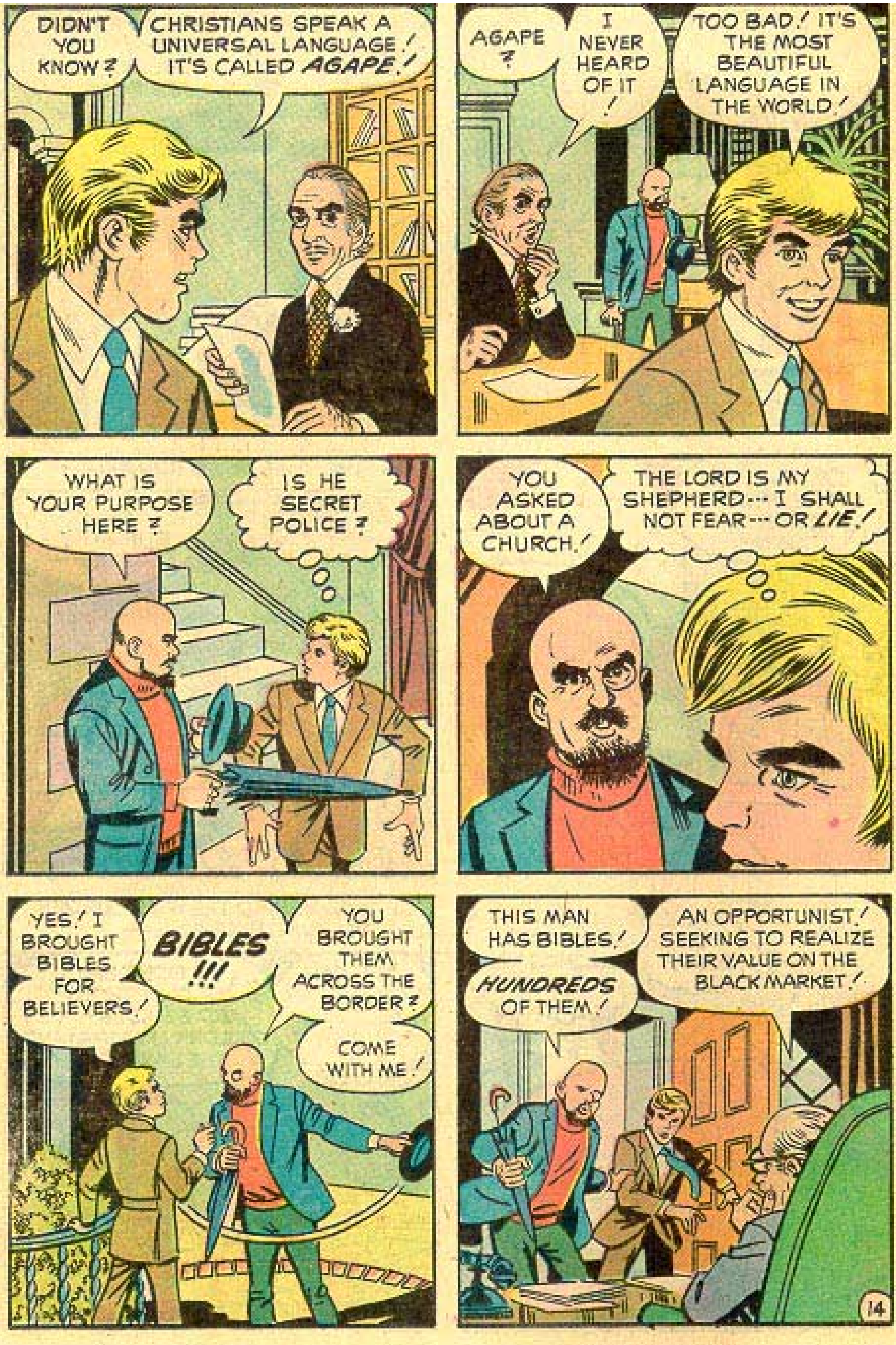


IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT CAN I DO TO GET BIBLES TO THOSE PEOPLE AND TURN THE TIDE?
YOU CAN DO NOTHING, ANDREW!
BUT GOD CAN DO EVERYTHING!
DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS I WROTE MAGAZINE ARTICLES ABOUT THE NEED TO HELP CHRISTIANS LIVING UNDER COMMUNISM!
AND I SPOKE WHEREVER I COULD---TRYING TO GET PEOPLE TO CARE!
SOON MONEY BEGAN TO ARRIVE!
ENOUGH TO BUY BIBLES AND FINANCE MY FIRST ADVENTURE AS GOD'S SMUGGLER!!!
AS I APPROACHED THE BORDER OF YUGOSLAVIA, I SAID A PRAYER I WOULD REPEAT MANY TIMES!
LORD, IN MY LUGGAGE I HAVE BIBLES FOR YOUR CHILDREN ACROSS THIS BORDER!
YOU HAVE MADE BLIND EYES SEE---
PLEASE MAKE SEEING EYES BLIND!
11

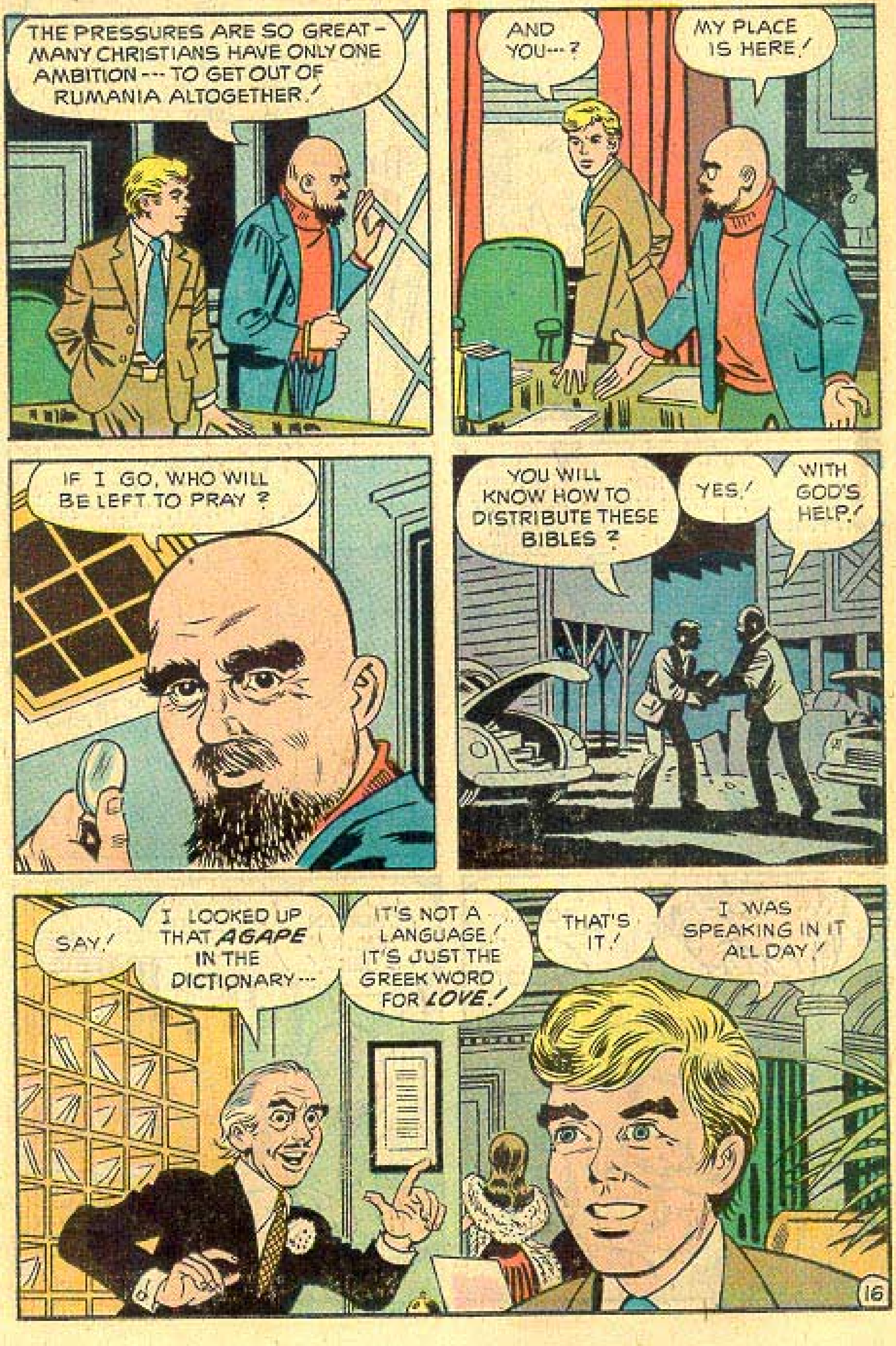


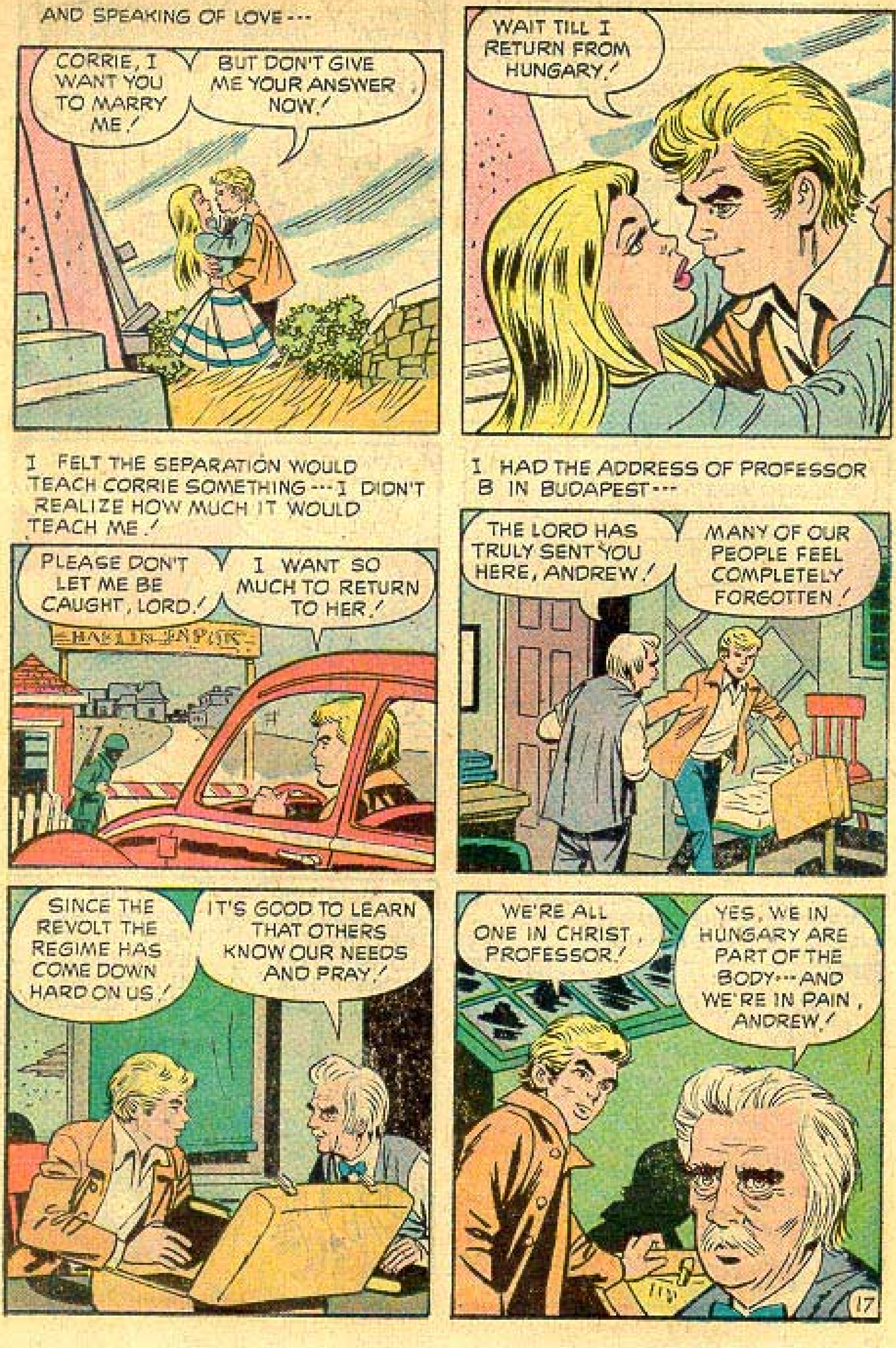
THE GUARDS HAVE SPENT AN *HOUR* SEARCHING THE CAR AHEAD OF ME!
THEY HAVEN'T OVERLOOKED A THING!
THEY EVEN REMOVED THE HUB CAPS!
THERE'S NO WAY OF HIDING THE BIBLES!
OH, LORD, DON'T LET THE GUARDS SEE THOSE BIBLES!
MOVE ALONG!
YOU'RE CLEAR!
ANDREW!
I BROUGHT GIFTS!
12


IT WENT BEAUTIFULLY, CORRIE!
GOD TRULY BLINDED THEIR EYES!
AND IF GOD CAN DO THAT, THERE'S NO NEED TO *HIDE* THE BIBLES!
I'LL EVEN PUT SOME ON THE FRONT SEAT BESIDE ME!
I'M ABLE TO TAKE *MORE BIBLES* THIS WAY!
BE CAREFUL, ANDY!
THIS TIME I ENTERED RUMANIA---
OH, LORD, BLIND THEIR EYES---
PASS!
THANK YOU, LORD!
IT ONLY TOOK THIRTY SECONDS THIS TIME!
BUT ONCE BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE---
UH, CAN YOU DIRECT ME TO A CHURCH?
WE DON'T HAVE MANY OF THOSE! AND BESIDES---YOU COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE!
13

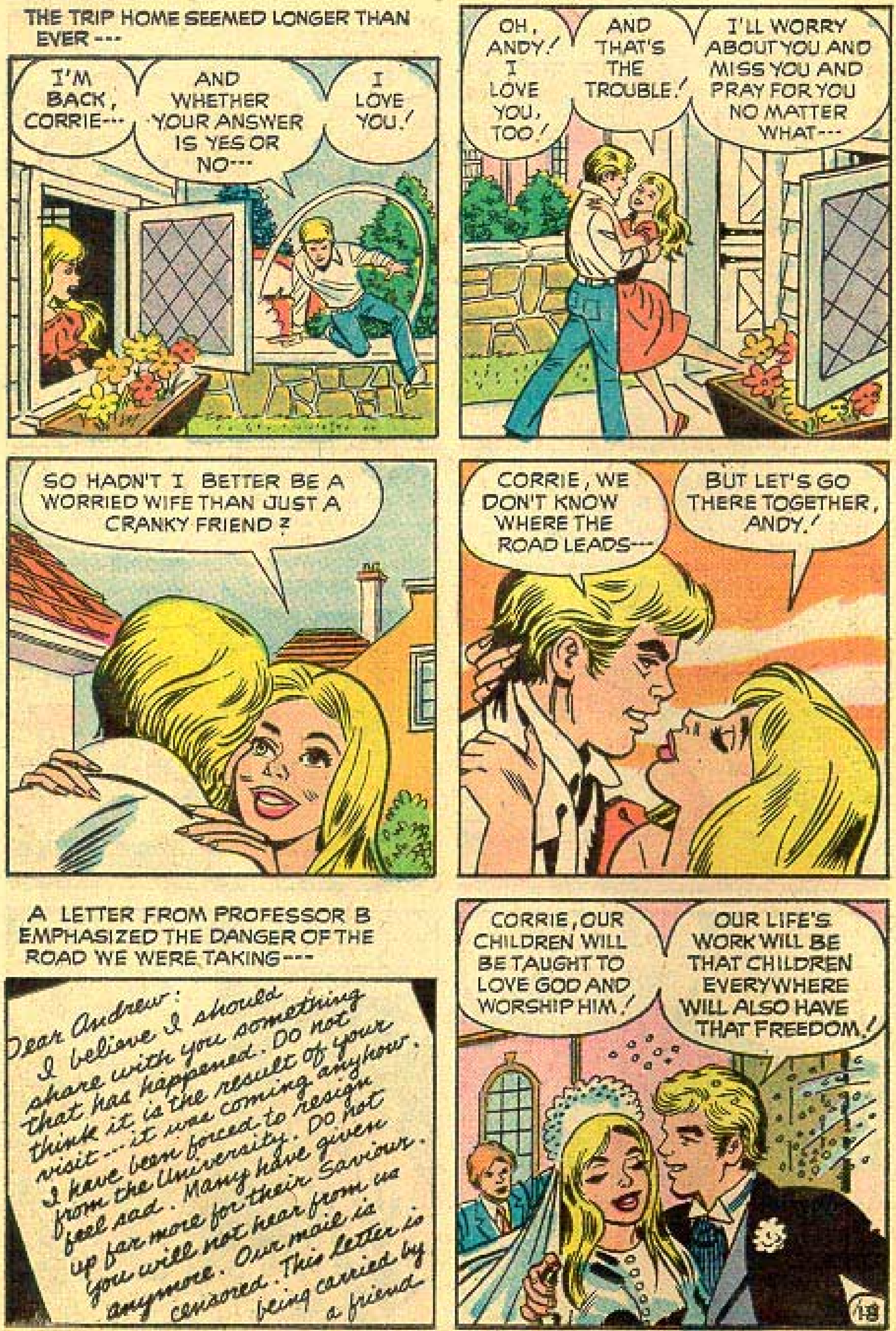

DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
CHRISTIANS SPEAK A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE! IT'S CALLED AGAPE!
AGAPE?
I NEVER HEARD OF IT!
TOO BAD! IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL LANGUAGE IN THE WORLD!
WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE HERE?
IS HE SECRET POLICE?
YOU ASKED ABOUT A CHURCH!
THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD--- I SHALL NOT FEAR--- OR LIE!
YES! I BROUGHT BIBLES FOR BELIEVERS!
BIBLES!!!
YOU BROUGHT THEM ACROSS THE BORDER?
COME WITH ME!
THIS MAN HAS BIBLES!
HUNDREDS OF THEM!
AN OPPORTUNIST! SEEKING TO REALIZE THEIR VALUE ON THE BLACK MARKET!
14


DO YOU REALIZE HOW THE REGIME VIEWS THIS ACTIVITY?
I'M MORE CONCERNED WITH HOW GOD VIEWS IT!
LET'S NOT PLAY GAMES!
WHAT IS YOUR ANGLE?
I SIMPLY WANT TO BRING GOD'S WORD TO HIS PEOPLE WHO HUNGER FOR IT!
HMPH! I SEE YOUR AUTO, MY FRIEND!
ONLY CAPITALISTS OWN AUTOS!
HOW DO YOU SUPPORT SUCH LUXURY BY GIVING AWAY BIBLES?
YOU SHOULD KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT---
'WHEN WE PUT GOD'S KINGDOM FIRST, HE PROVIDES ALL WE NEED!'
I---I'M SORRY---
I CANNOT BE INVOLVED IN THIS BUSINESS!
DO NOT CONDEMN HIM, MY FRIEND!
HE WALKS A TIGHTROPE!
16


THE PRESSURES ARE SO GREAT – MANY CHRISTIANS HAVE ONLY ONE AMBITION --- TO GET OUT OF RUMANIA ALTOGETHER!
AND YOU--- ?
MY PLACE IS HERE!
IF I GO, WHO WILL BE LEFT TO PRAY ?
YOU WILL KNOW HOW TO DISTRIBUTE THESE BIBLES ?
YES!
WITH GOD'S HELP!
SAY!
I LOOKED UP THAT *AGAPE* IN THE DICTIONARY---
IT'S NOT A LANGUAGE! IT'S JUST THE GREEK WORD FOR *LOVE*!
THAT'S IT!
I WAS SPEAKING IN IT ALL DAY!
16

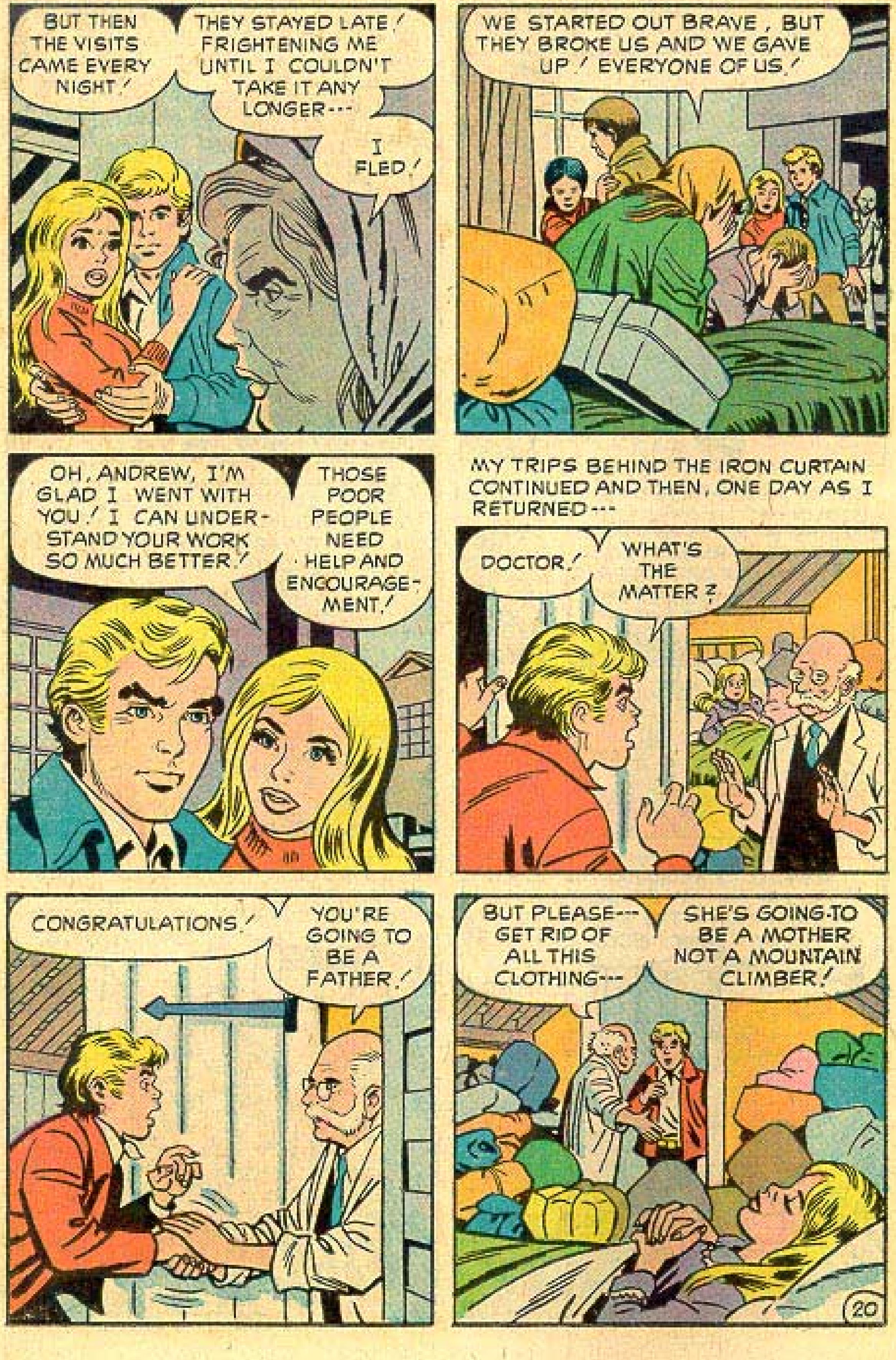


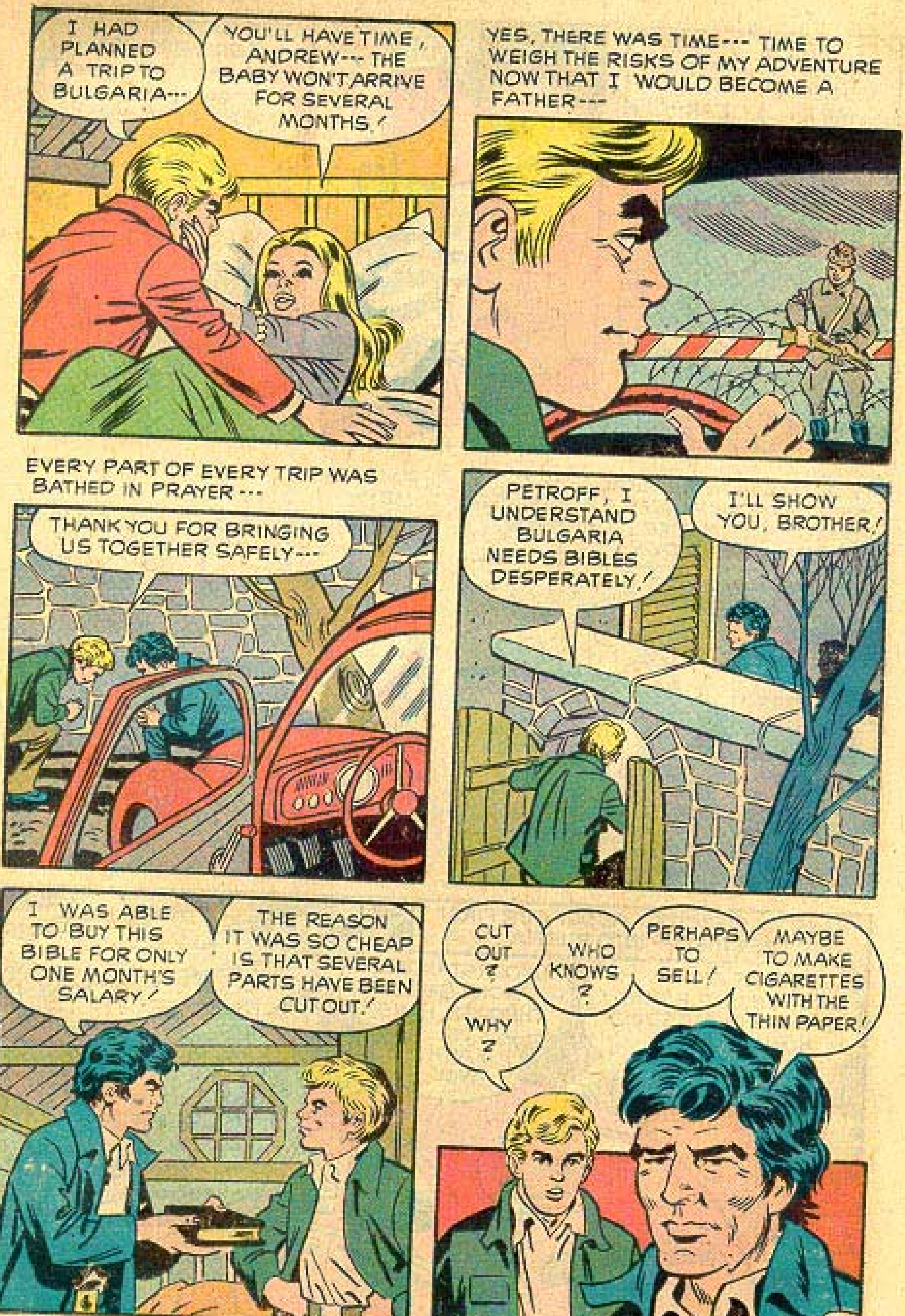
AND SPEAKING OF LOVE---
CORRIE, I WANT YOU TO MARRY ME!
BUT DON'T GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER NOW!
WAIT TILL I RETURN FROM HUNGARY!
I FELT THE SEPARATION WOULD TEACH CORRIE SOMETHING---I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH IT WOULD TEACH ME!
PLEASE DON'T LET ME BE CAUGHT, LORD!
I WANT SO MUCH TO RETURN TO HER!
I HAD THE ADDRESS OF PROFESSOR B IN BUDAPEST---
THE LORD HAS TRULY SENT YOU HERE, ANDREW!
MANY OF OUR PEOPLE FEEL COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN!
SINCE THE REVOLT THE REGIME HAS COME DOWN HARD ON US!
IT'S GOOD TO LEARN THAT OTHERS KNOW OUR NEEDS AND PRAY!
WE'RE ALL ONE IN CHRIST, PROFESSOR!
YES, WE IN HUNGARY ARE PART OF THE BODY---AND WE'RE IN PAIN, ANDREW!


THE TRIP HOME SEEMED LONGER THAN EVER ---
I'M BACK, CORRIE---
AND WHETHER YOUR ANSWER IS YES OR NO---
I LOVE YOU.!
OH, ANDY! I LOVE YOU, TOO!
AND THAT'S THE TROUBLE!
I'LL WORRY ABOUT YOU AND MISS YOU AND PRAY FOR YOU NO MATTER WHAT---
SO HADN'T I BETTER BE A WORRIED WIFE THAN JUST A CRANKY FRIEND?
CORRIE, WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THE ROAD LEADS---
BUT LET'S GO THERE TOGETHER, ANDY!
A LETTER FROM PROFESSOR B EMPHASIZED THE DANGER OF THE ROAD WE WERE TAKING---
Dear Andrew: I believe I should share with you something that has happened. Do not think it is the result of your visit --- it was coming anyhow. I have been forced to resign from the University. Do not feel sad. Many have given up far more for their Saviour. You will not hear from us anymore. Our mail is censored. This letter is being carried by a friend
CORRIE, OUR CHILDREN WILL BE TAUGHT TO LOVE GOD AND WORSHIP HIM!
OUR LIFE'S WORK WILL BE THAT CHILDREN EVERYWHERE WILL ALSO HAVE THAT FREEDOM!
18

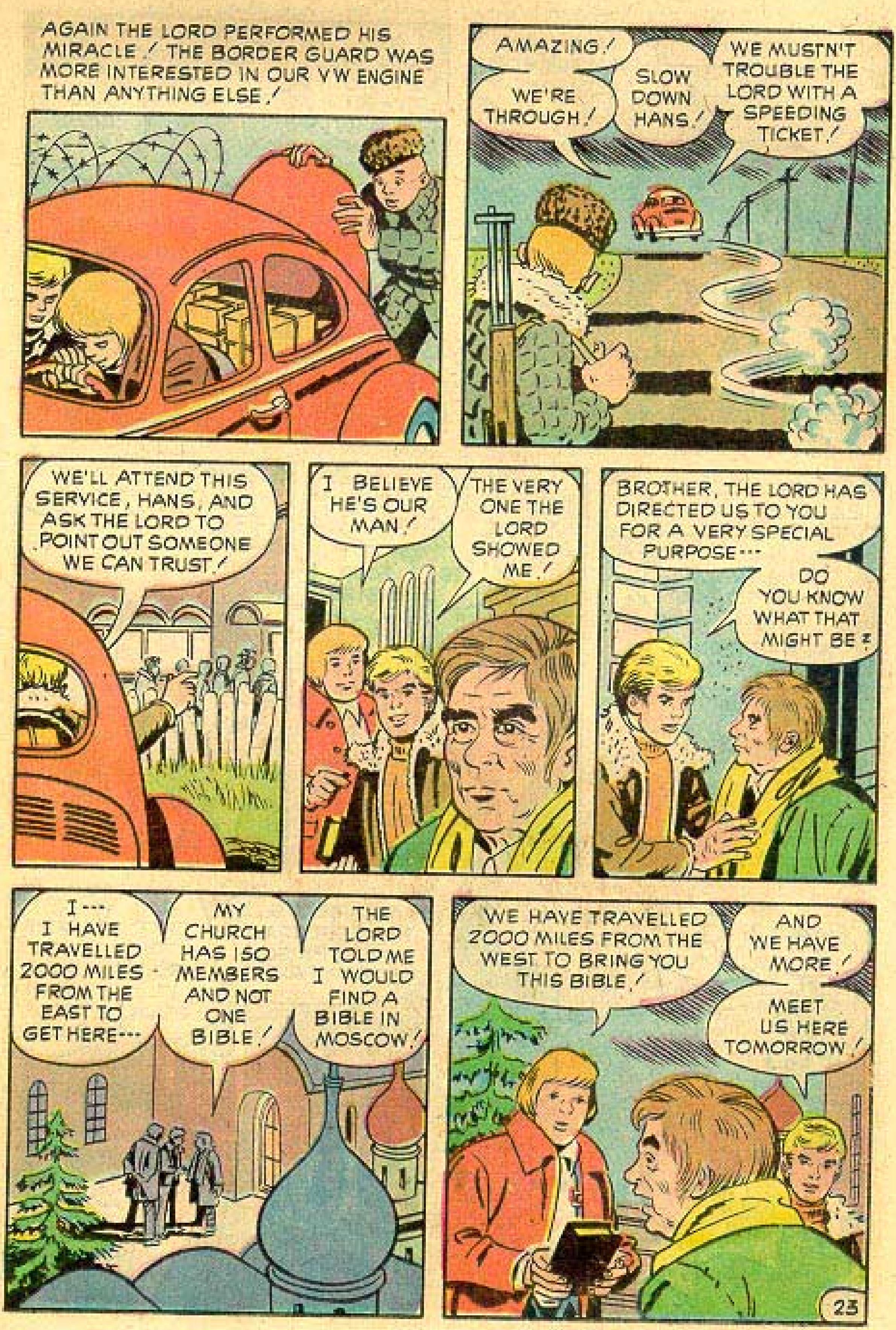


AND SO, CORRIE AND I MOVED INTO MY ONE LITTLE ROOM---
ANDREW!
ALL THESE CLOTHES!
THEY'RE SENT FROM ALL OVER!
AND I TAKE THEM TO THE REFUGEE CAMPS OF WEST BERLIN!
WELL, LET'S TAKE THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
CORRIE ACCOMPANIED ME TO WEST BERLIN---
I MUST WARN YOU, CORRIE--- THE SQUALOR OF THESE REFUGEE CAMPS WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO EAT!
THESE PEOPLE HAVE LEFT EVERYTHING BEHIND--- BECAUSE NONE OF IT WAS WORTH WHAT THEY DIDN'T HAVE---
FREEDOM!
I WAS A TEACHER IN EAST GERMANY---
REQUIRED TO TEACH MY STUDENTS THAT THE STATE WAS GOD!
I RUFUSED!
AT FIRST THE PRESSURE WAS LOW-KEYED---
PARTY OFFICIALS PAID ME FRIENDLY VISITS ONCE A WEEK!
19


BUT THEN THE VISITS CAME EVERY NIGHT!
THEY STAYED LATE! FRIGHTENING ME UNTIL I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANY LONGER---
I FLED!
WE STARTED OUT BRAVE, BUT THEY BROKE US AND WE GAVE UP! EVERYONE OF US!
OH, ANDREW, I'M GLAD I WENT WITH YOU! I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR WORK SO MUCH BETTER!
THOSE POOR PEOPLE NEED HELP AND ENCOURAGEMENT!
MY TRIPS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN CONTINUED AND THEN, ONE DAY AS I RETURNED---
DOCTOR!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
CONGRATULATIONS!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE A FATHER!
BUT PLEASE--- GET RID OF ALL THIS CLOTHING---
SHE'S GOING TO BE A MOTHER NOT A MOUNTAIN CLIMBER!
20

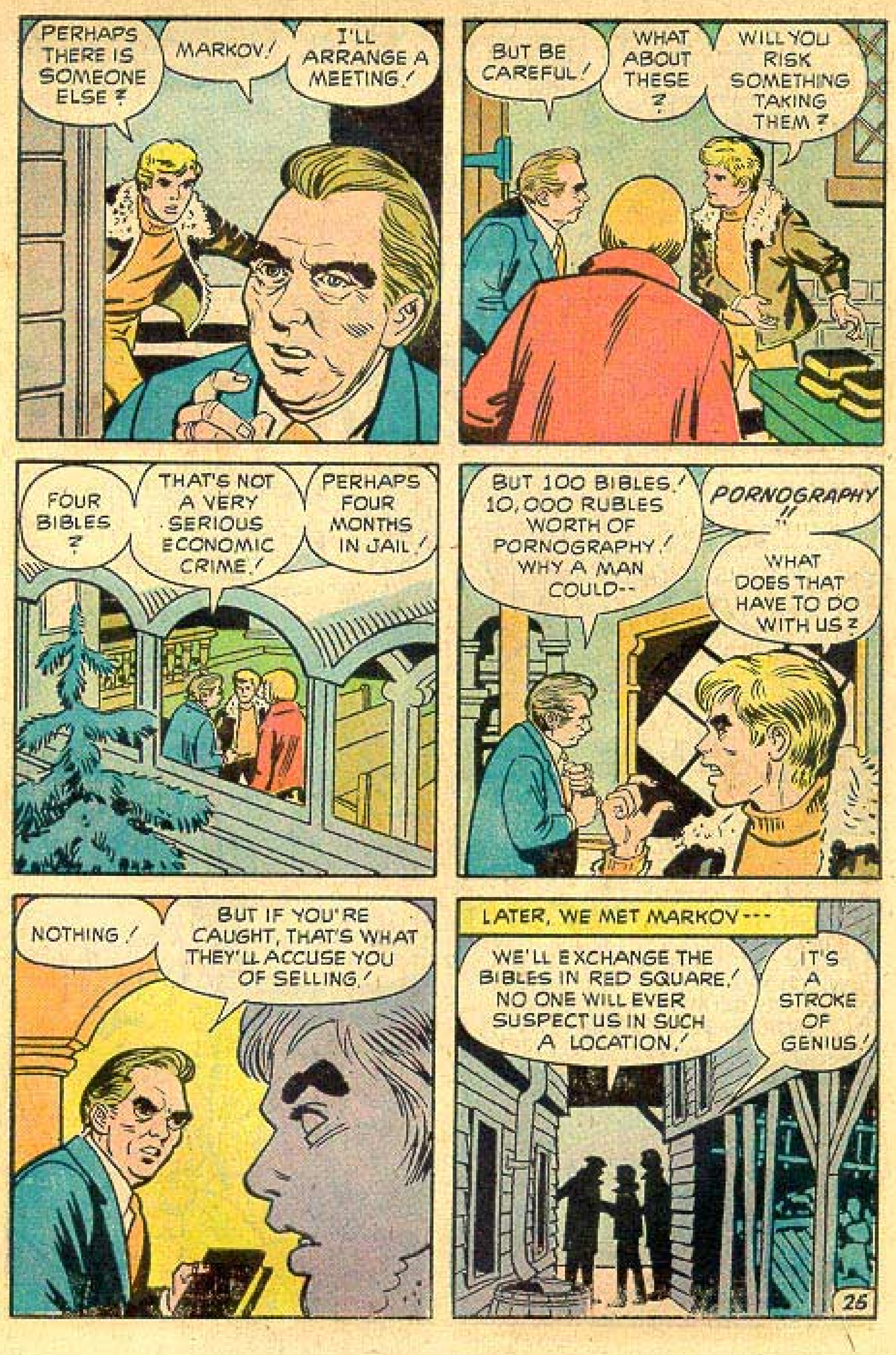

I HAD PLANNED A TRIP TO BULGARIA---
YOU'LL HAVE TIME, ANDREW--- THE BABY WON'T ARRIVE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS!
YES, THERE WAS TIME--- TIME TO WEIGH THE RISKS OF MY ADVENTURE NOW THAT I WOULD BECOME A FATHER---
EVERY PART OF EVERY TRIP WAS BATHED IN PRAYER---
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER SAFELY---
PETROFF, I UNDERSTAND BULGARIA NEEDS BIBLES DESPERATELY!
I'LL SHOW YOU, BROTHER!
I WAS ABLE TO BUY THIS BIBLE FOR ONLY ONE MONTH'S SALARY!
THE REASON IT WAS SO CHEAP IS THAT SEVERAL PARTS HAVE BEEN CUT OUT!
CUT OUT?
WHY?
WHO KNOWS?
PERHAPS TO SELL!
MAYBE TO MAKE CIGARETTES WITH THE THIN PAPER!


PETROFF, WOULD YOU HELP ME, PLEASE---
I HAVE SOMETHING IN MY CAR---
THE BATTLELINE IS LONG, BROTHER---
SOME PLACES WE MUST GIVE A LITTLE, OTHER PLACES WE MAY ADVANCE!
THIS DAY WE HAVE MADE AN ADVANCE!
IN GOD'S AMAZING GRACE THERE WERE MANY ADVANCES! BLESSINGS POURED INTO MY LIFE! CHILDREN! A HOME OF OUR OWN!
AND THEN GOD SENT HANS TO JOIN ME---
I HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER BUT MY STRENGTH--- PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY!
I'VE BEEN ALONE FOR SO LONG, IT'S GREAT TO HAVE A CO-WORKER!
HANS WAS EXCITED ABOUT OUR FIRST TRIP TOGETHER-- INTO RUSSIA!
WE HAVE OVER ONE HUNDRED BIBLES! I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW WE'LL GET THROUGH???
UNDERSTANDING WON'T GET US THROUGH, HANS!
FAITH WILL!
22

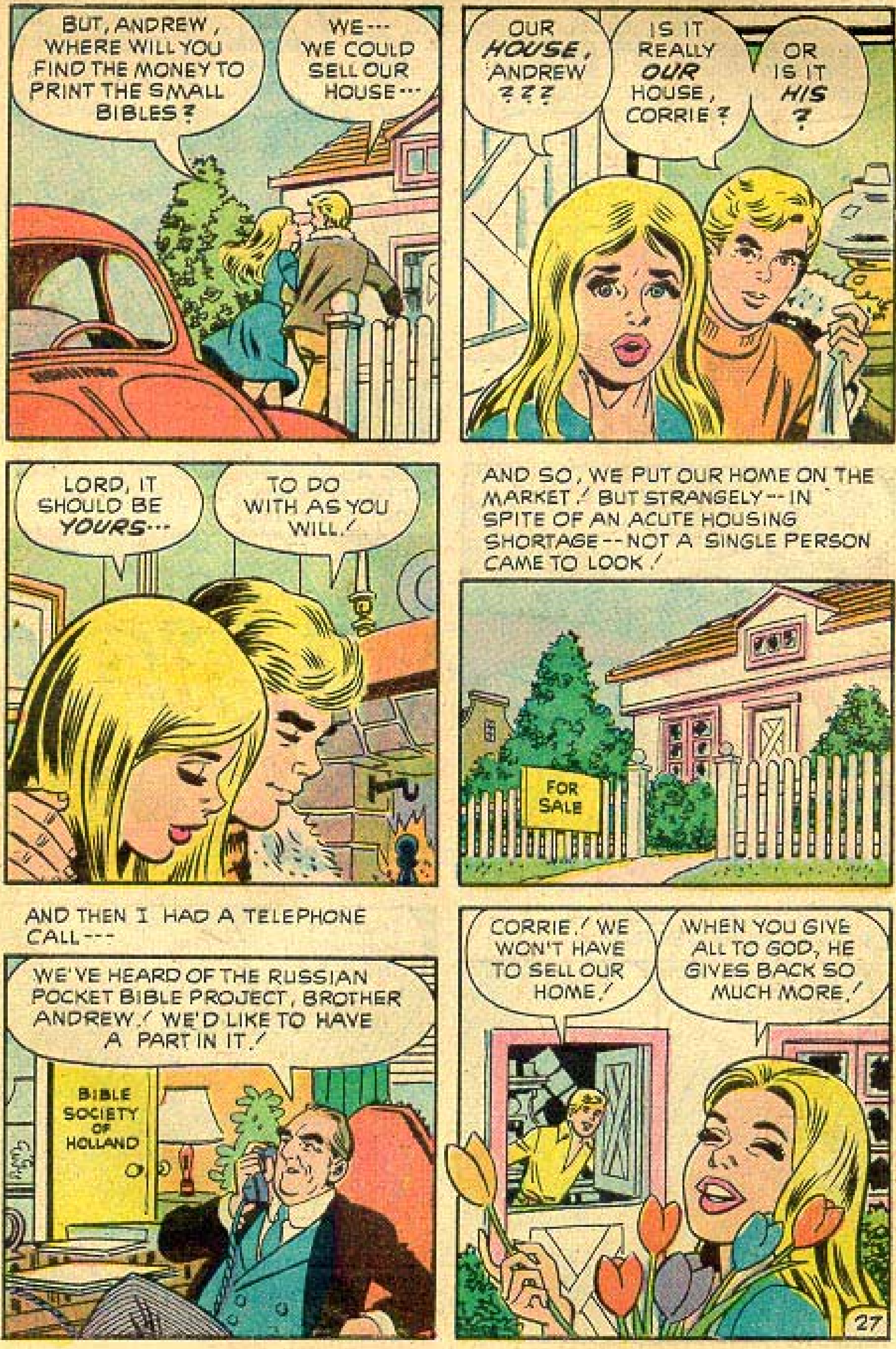


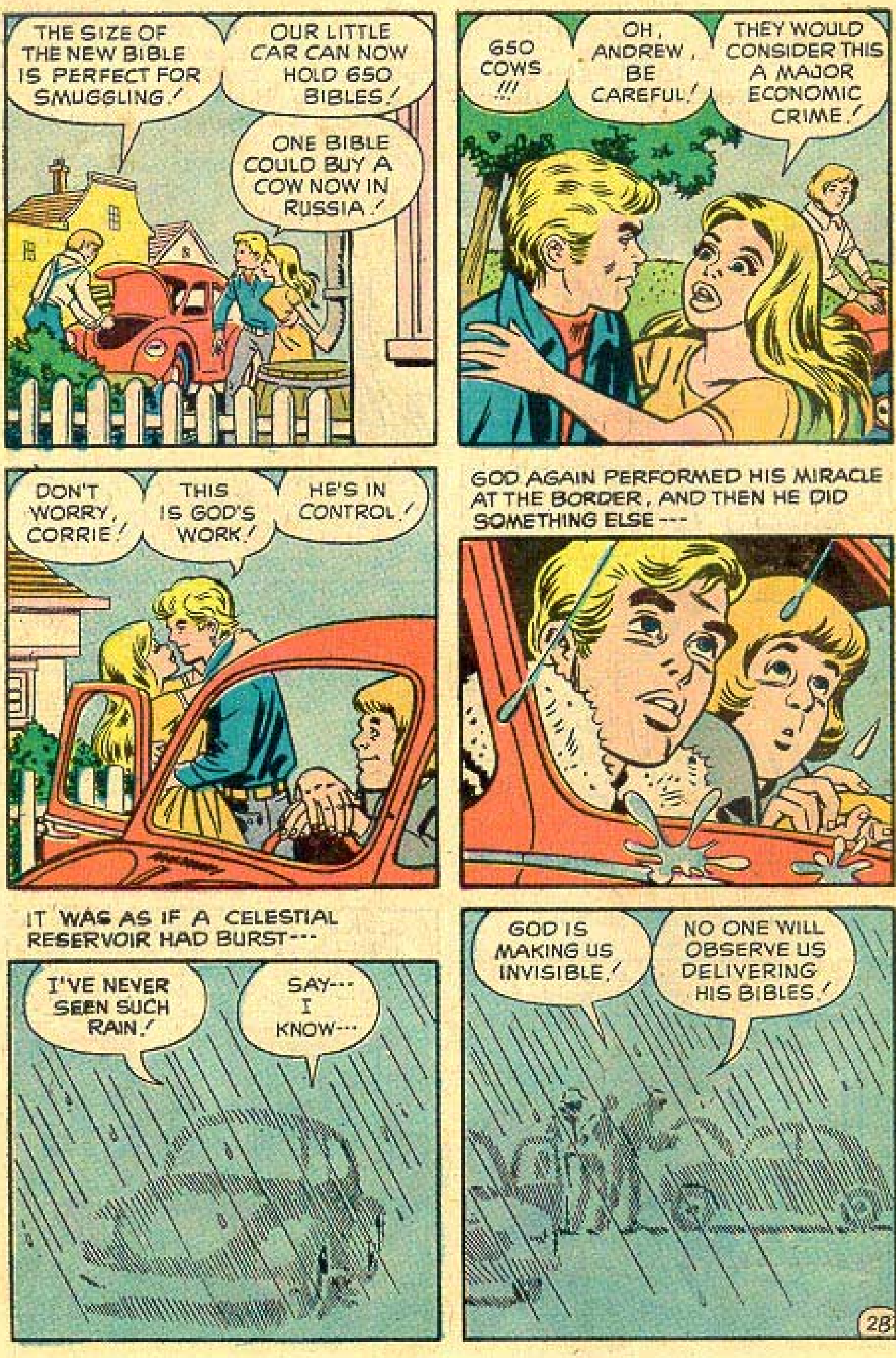
AGAIN THE LORD PERFORMED HIS MIRACLE! THE BORDER GUARD WAS MORE INTERESTED IN OUR VW ENGINE THAN ANYTHING ELSE!
AMAZING!
WE'RE THROUGH!
SLOW DOWN HANS!
WE MUSTN'T TROUBLE THE LORD WITH A SPEEDING TICKET!
WE'LL ATTEND THIS SERVICE, HANS, AND ASK THE LORD TO POINT OUT SOMEONE WE CAN TRUST!
I BELIEVE HE'S OUR MAN!
THE VERY ONE THE LORD SHOWED ME!
BROTHER, THE LORD HAS DIRECTED US TO YOU FOR A VERY SPECIAL PURPOSE...
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MIGHT BE?
I--- I HAVE TRAVELLED 2000 MILES FROM THE EAST TO GET HERE---
MY CHURCH HAS 150 MEMBERS AND NOT ONE BIBLE!
THE LORD TOLD ME I WOULD FIND A BIBLE IN MOSCOW!
WE HAVE TRAVELLED 2000 MILES FROM THE WEST TO BRING YOU THIS BIBLE!
AND WE HAVE MORE!
MEET US HERE TOMORROW!


THE NEXT DAY---
ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOMEONE ?
YES! SOMEONE WE MET LAST NIGHT!
YOUR SIBERIAN FRIEND CANNOT COME!
CANNOT COME ???
MY FRIENDS, AT EACH SERVICE THERE ARE SECRET POLICE!
THEY SAW YOU TALKING TO THIS MAN!
HE WAS BEEN "SPOKEN" TO---
HE WILL NOT BE HERE!
YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR HIM ?
YES,
FOUR BIBLES!
FOUR BIBLES ???
AND WE HAVE MORE!
MORE ?
HOW MANY ?
OVER ONE HUNDRED!
MY FRIENDS, I HAVE SPENT MY TIME IN PRISON FOR MY FAITH!
I CAN'T GO THROUGH IT AGAIN!
I CAN'T HELP YOU WITH THOSE BIBLES!
24


PERHAPS THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE ?
MARKOV!
I'LL ARRANGE A MEETING!
BUT BE CAREFUL!
WHAT ABOUT THESE ?
WILL YOU RISK SOMETHING TAKING THEM ?
FOUR BIBLES ?
THAT'S NOT A VERY SERIOUS ECONOMIC CRIME!
PERHAPS FOUR MONTHS IN JAIL!
BUT 100 BIBLES! 10,000 RUBLES WORTH OF PORNOGRAPHY! WHY A MAN COULD--
PORNOGRAPHY !!
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH US ?
NOTHING!
BUT IF YOU'RE CAUGHT, THAT'S WHAT THEY'LL ACCUSE YOU OF SELLING!
LATER, WE MET MARKOV---
WE'LL EXCHANGE THE BIBLES IN RED SQUARE! NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT US IN SUCH A LOCATION!
IT'S A STROKE OF GENIUS!
26


HE'S MORE OF A GENIUS THAN I!
I'VE GOT A FUNNY FEELING ABOUT THIS!
THEN YOU'D BETTER PRAY!
BY NEXT WEEK THESE BIBLES WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF PASTORS ALL OVER RUSSIA!
THANK YOU, LORD!
HANS, IF WE HAD POCKET BIBLES PRINTED IN RUSSIAN WE'D HAVE ROOM TO CARRY SO MANY MORE BIBLES!
BUT SUCH A SMALL BIBLE DOES NOT EXIST!
THEN WE SHALL *PRINT* IT!
26


BUT, ANDREW, WHERE WILL YOU FIND THE MONEY TO PRINT THE SMALL BIBLES?
WE--- WE COULD SELL OUR HOUSE---
OUR HOUSE, ANDREW???
IS IT REALLY OUR HOUSE, CORRIE?
OR IS IT HIS?
LORD, IT SHOULD BE YOURS---
TO DO WITH AS YOU WILL!
AND SO, WE PUT OUR HOME ON THE MARKET! BUT STRANGELY--IN SPITE OF AN ACUTE HOUSING SHORTAGE--NOT A SINGLE PERSON CAME TO LOOK!
FOR SALE
AND THEN I HAD A TELEPHONE CALL---
WE'VE HEARD OF THE RUSSIAN POCKET BIBLE PROJECT, BROTHER ANDREW! WE'D LIKE TO HAVE A PART IN IT!
BIBLE SOCIETY OF HOLLAND
CORRIE! WE WON'T HAVE TO SELL OUR HOME!
WHEN YOU GIVE ALL TO GOD, HE GIVES BACK SO MUCH MORE!


THE SIZE OF THE NEW BIBLE IS PERFECT FOR SMUGGLING!
OUR LITTLE CAR CAN NOW HOLD 650 BIBLES!
ONE BIBLE COULD BUY A COW NOW IN RUSSIA!
650 COWS !!!
OH, ANDREW, BE CAREFUL!
THEY WOULD CONSIDER THIS A MAJOR ECONOMIC CRIME!
DON'T WORRY, CORRIE!
THIS IS GOD'S WORK!
HE'S IN CONTROL!
GOD AGAIN PERFORMED HIS MIRACLE AT THE BORDER, AND THEN HE DID SOMETHING ELSE---
IT WAS AS IF A CELESTIAL RESERVOIR HAD BURST---
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH RAIN!
SAY--- I KNOW---
GOD IS MAKING US INVISIBLE!
NO ONE WILL OBSERVE US DELIVERING HIS BIBLES!
28



THE LORD'S BLESSINGS CONTINUED!
OUR TEAM GREW TO 12 MEMBERS MAKING REGULAR TRIPS INTO COMMUNIST LANDS!
AND AT HOME, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE BECAME INVOLVED!
I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT YOUR CAUSE, BROTHER ANDREW!
YOU WON'T BE SERVING A *CAUSE*, BROTHER---
YOU'LL BE SERVING OUR *LORD!*
AND SERVICE IS NOT WHAT WE *DO* FOR HIM---
IT'S WHAT WE *ARE* TO HIM!
IF I WERE DEVOTED TO THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY ONLY, I WOULD SOON BE EXHAUSTED AND MY LOVE WOULD FALTER!
THE SECRET OF A DISCIPLE'S LIFE IS DEVOTION TO JESUS!
HE IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE!
IT'S LIKE A CORN OF WHEAT WHICH FALLS INTO THE GROUND AND DIES, BUT SOON IT WILL SPRING UP AND ALTER THE WHOLE LANDSCAPE!
MY LIFE IN CHRIST LED ME NEXT TO HONG KONG---


I WOULD LIKE A VISA TO VISIT CHINA!
RED CHINA TRAVEL OFFICE
YOUR PASSPORT SHOWS YOU HAVE JUST COME FROM THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN!
YES, THAT'S TRUE!
YOU CANNOT POSSIBLY GO TO CHINA! THESE COUNTRIES ARE OUR ENEMIES!
BUT THEY ARE NOT MY ENEMIES!
I HAVE NO ENEMIES!
WE HELD EACH OTHER'S EYE! I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS THINKING, BUT I WAS PRAYING!
HERE IS APPLICATION FOR VISA!
IT WILL ACHIEVE NOTHING!
BUT THERE ARE NO DOORS MY LORD CAN'T OPEN! MY VISA WAS APPROVED AND I ENTERED CHINA TO SEEK OUT CHRISTIANS!
THE ONE YOU SEEK IS OUT OF TOWN!
I WONDER HOW MANY CHRISTIANS IN CHINA TODAY ARE PERMANENTLY "OUT OF TOWN"?
30


YOU WILL FIND NO CHURCHES HERE!
RELIGION IS FOR THE HELPLESS!
AND WE ARE NO LONGER HELPLESS!
THE RED GUARD BURNED ALL OUR BIBLES!
WHY SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?
I HAVE THE SAYINGS OF CHAIRMAN MAO!
WE WANT NO MISSIONARIES!
THEY ARE ALL SPIES!
WE HAVE A SMALL GROUP OF BELIEVERS BUT NO YOUNG PEOPLE!
NO ONE HAS EVER MADE CHRISTIANITY ATTRACTIVE TO US!
WHAT CHANCE DOES THE GOSPEL HAVE WHEN IT IS BELIEVED ONLY BY THE OLD?

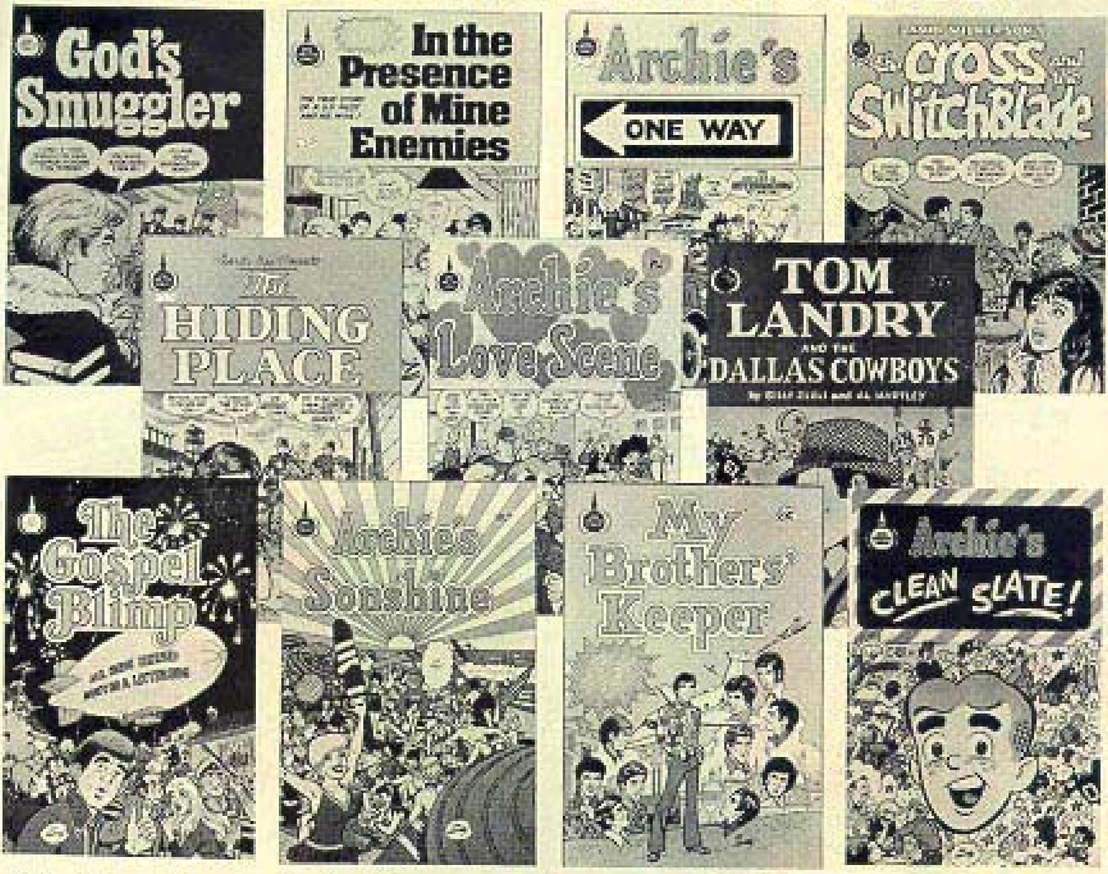

I FOUND THINGS TO BE NO BETTER IN CUBA---
OUR PRIESTS AND MINISTERS ARE CLASSED AS NON-PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY!
THEY RECEIVE NO FOOD OR CLOTHING RATIONS!
OUR PASTOR NOW WORKS AT FORCED LABOR WITH CONVICTS IN THE SUGAR CANE FIELDS!



IS THE PICTURE IN THE WORLD AS DARK AS IT LOOKS, ANDREW?
GOD SAYS ALL THINGS--EVEN EVIL THINGS--WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM!
AND AMONG THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES THERE IS MUCH ENCOURAGEMENT!
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES ARE EASING TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS!
IMAGINE IF EVERY TRAVELLER SET OUT TO SHARE NOT ONLY CULTURE AND COMMERCE BUT ALSO CHRIST'S LOVE!
SMUGGLING BIBLES IS RISKY BUSINESS, BUT BORDER GUARDS WOULD SAY NOTHING TO A SINGLE COPY IN THE LOCAL LANGUAGE!
AND A BIBLE LEFT ON A TABLE WOULD SOON FIND ITS WAY INTO EAGER HANDS!
PEOPLE WHO NEVER DREAMED OF BEING MISSIONARIES COULD PLAY A ROLE LARGER THAN ANYTHING THAT HAS YET BEEN DONE!
OH, ANDREW, LET'S PRAY THAT GOD WILL MAKE NEW MISSIONARIES OF PEOPLE BY THE THOUSANDS!
YES, LORD--MAY WE ALL CHERISH YOUR WORD AND SHARE IT WITH ALL THOSE WHO HUNGER FOR IT!
END

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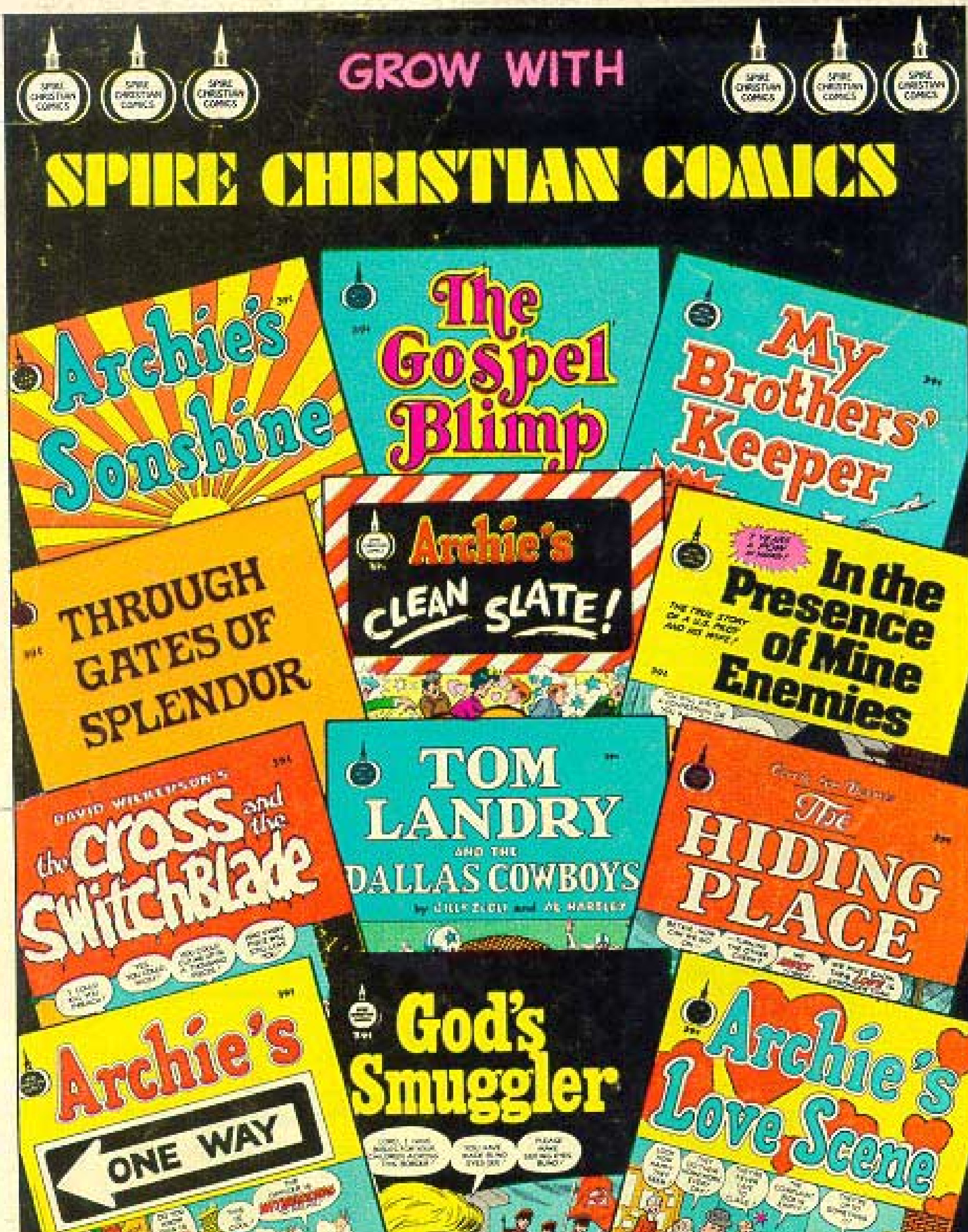
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